

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Richard H. Tushin on 24 April 2009.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

Claims:

IN CLAIM, LINE 3, after "media to the instrument," and before "plurality of top modules" insert --a--.

CANCEL CLAIM 18.

IN CLAIM 19, LINES 1-2, delete "claim 18" and insert --claim 15--.

IN CLAIM 19, LINE 2, delete "said top module and said instrument holder" and insert --one of said top modules including instrument holders--.

IN CLAIM 20, LINE 2, delete "said top module and said instrument holder" and insert --the one of said top modules including instrument holders--.

IN CLAIM 21, LINE 2, delete "said top module and said instrument holder" and insert--one of said top modules including instrument holders--.

IN CLAIM 24, LINE 3, delete "said top modules" and insert --one of said top modules--.

IN CLAIM 25, LINE 3, delete "types of apparatus" and insert --instruments having hanging instrument hoses and instruments having swivel-arm or whip-arm hose supports--.

Art Unit: 3732

IN CLAIM 26, LINE 2, delete "said top module" and insert --one of said top modules--.

Reasons for Allowance

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art alone or in combination disclose a dental apparatus or dental treatment element including *a coupling bar mounted on the underside of the base module including couplings for instrument which is changeably mounted from a position for the attachment of hanging instrument hoses or extending downwardly to a position for the attachment a hose in the front or forwardly relative to the base module* in combination with the elements set forth in claims 15 and 27.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL R. BALLINGER whose telephone number is (571)270-5567. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30 A.M to 5:00 P.M. EST.

7. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cris Rodriguez can be reached on (571)272-4964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3732

8. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael R Ballinger/
Examiner, Art Unit 3732
4/24/09

/Cris L. Rodriguez/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3732